

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 15 and 17 are amended, and claims 18-20 are added. No new matter has been added.

Support for new claims 18-20 is found throughout the specification, drawing figures and claims as filed.

Applicants acknowledge the indication on page 6 of the Office Action that claims 4, 6, 7 and 10-13 recite allowable subject matter and that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

For the following reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. DRAWINGS

On page 2 of the Office Action, it is noted that Figs. 1-3 should be designated with a legend such as "Prior Art". It is respectfully noted that Figs. 1-3 already have the proper designation of "Related Art", and there is no mandated requirement to use the legend "Prior Art". Specifically, it is noted that, the suggestive "such as" is used to suggest the use of "Prior Art" as a legend in MPEP § 608.02(g). Consequently, as Figs. 1-3 already have a proper legend, the requirement for the drawings should be withdrawn. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

II. REPLY TO REJECTIONS

A. 35 U.S.C. § 112

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 5, 15 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

As to claim 48, it is respectfully submitted that claim 48 does not exist. This rejection appears to be in error.

As to claims 5 and 15, these claims are amended to clarify the recited subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

On page 4 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 14, 15, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 2,905,235 to Dolby (hereinafter "Dolby") or U.S. Patent No. 6,190,163 to Maricic et al. (hereinafter "Maricic"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that none of Dolby, Maricic, or their combination disclose or suggest a laundry dryer having a gas combustion apparatus, the apparatus comprising a flame holder comprising an annular hub having a center flame hole, and a plurality of outer wings radiating from the annular hub, as recited in claim 1.

As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, Dolby discloses a flame shaping means that is y-shaped when seen from the side as shown in Fig. 4, or has two parallel spaced vertical bars 42 as seen from the front. The flame shaping means of Dolby is not an annular hub.

Figs. 2 and 3 of Maricic disclose a body 52 and a cut out diverter portion 56 without a central flame hole. Fig. 4 of Maricic merely discloses a body 62 with a few semi-circular openings 68 that are cut out of the body 62 so that remaining portions are formed between the openings 68. These remaining portions are formed in the body 62, and are neither wings nor radiate from the body 62. Figs. 6-11 of Maricic also fail to disclose or suggest an annular hub. Consequently, none of Dolby, Maricic, or their combination disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

Consequently, claim 1 is patentable over the applied references and their combination. Claims 2, 14, 15, 16 and 17, which depend from claim 1, are likewise patentable over the applied references and their combination for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 8, 9 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,433,602 to Sigler. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Sigler fails to disclose or suggest a laundry dryer having a gas combustion apparatus, the apparatus comprising a flame holder, the flame holder comprising an annular hub having a center flame hole, and a plurality of outer wings radiating from the annular hub, as recited in claim 1.

Various figures of Sigler, for example Fig. 1, disclose having a flat disk member 40 with a central opening 51 and a plurality of surrounding smaller openings 53. However, Sigler fails to disclose the outer wings radiating from the annular hub, as recited in claim 1. Consequently, claim 1 is patentable over the applied reference. Claims 2, 3, 8, 9 and 14-17, which depend from claim 1, are likewise patentable over the applied reference for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. NEW CLAIMS

New claims 18 and 19 are patentable over the applied references for at least its dependence from claim 1 and its added features. New claim 20 is also patentable over the applied references. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

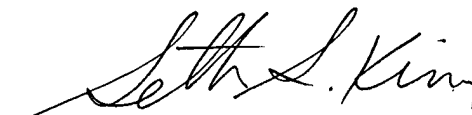
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, Seth S. Kim, at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 10/725,934
Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2005

Docket No. K-0588

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Eisenhart".

John C. Eisenhart
Registration No. 38,128
Seth S. Kim
Registration No. 54,577

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
703 766-3701 DYK/JCE/SSK:knv
Date: FEBRUARY 28, 2006

Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610